



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 21-3320, **Agenda Item #:** 14.

11/18/2021

### **Posting Language**

Authorize award and execution of a construction contract with Austin Underground, Inc. (MBE), for the South Austin Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge Transfer Line and Reclaimed Water Line project in the amount of \$5,751,536.00 plus a \$575,153.60 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$6,326,689.60.

[Note: This contract will be awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9A (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 96.95% MBE and 3.03% WBE participation.]

### **Lead Department**

Capital Contracting Office

### **Managing Department**

Public Works Department

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Capital Budget of Austin Water.

### **Purchasing Language:**

Lowest responsive bid of five bids received through a competitive Invitation for Bids solicitation.

### **For More Information:**

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or [AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov](mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov) <mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov>

NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall direct inquiries to Rolando Fernandez, 512-974-7749, Garrett Cox, 512-974-9423, or the Project Manager, John Wepryk 512-974-7010.

### **Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:**

November 3, 2021 - Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission on a 6-0 vote with Commissioner Penn recusing and Commissioners Michel, Musgrove and Williams absent and one vacancy.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

The South Austin Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge Transfer Line and Reclaimed Water Line is part of the Renewing Austin Wastewater and Reclaimed Water Program. Austin Water's collection system is fundamental for conveyance of wastewater to Austin Water's treatment plants. Austin Water's collection system is a large and complex system, consisting of approximately 2,900 miles of wastewater mains, and serving approximately one million customers.

An existing sludge transfer line and reclaimed water line are exposed and are visible from the banks of the Colorado River due to natural erosion over time. These lines represent single points of failure for the South

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Austin Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Plant, and numerous reclaimed water customers south of the Colorado River. The proposed project will repair and replace approximately 1,720 linear feet of deteriorated sludge line (wastewater) and approximately 1,860 linear feet of reclaimed water main and associated appurtenances. The lines will be placed deeper beneath the Colorado River for additional erosion protection.

This item includes four allowances. The allowance of \$60,000 will be used to address security services during construction (to cover security at night when security fencing is not intact). The allowance of \$50,000 will be used to address additional Bermuda block sodding along the length of the installed pipe. The allowance of \$25,000 will be used to address contaminated soil or groundwater testing and removal. The allowance of \$65,000 will be used for installation of an automatic security gate. An allowance is an amount that is specified and included in the construction contract or specifications for a certain item(s) of work whose details are not yet determined at the time of bidding.

This contract will include award of an alternate bid item of \$80,000 for repairing and paving the road and driveway on Fallwell Lane at the entrance of the wastewater treatment plant. An alternate bid is a specified item of the construction work that is priced separately and may be awarded as part of the contract if the bids come within the specified budget.

Due to the potential for unforeseen construction issues, a 10% contingency in funding has been included to allow for the expeditious processing of any change orders. A contingency is an additional amount of money added to the construction budget to cover any unforeseen construction costs associated with the project. By authorizing the additional contingency funding, Council is authorizing any change orders within the contingency amount.

There will be no impact on the traveling public because the pipes will be bored deep under the Colorado River from the South Austin Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant property to easements on private property on the north bank of the river.

This construction contract is time sensitive and is a critical component of maintenance and repair to the wastewater and reclaimed water system. Delay or deferral of this contract will place an undue burden on City operations crews, will have a negative effect on infrastructure stability, and increase the risk to the operations at South Austin Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant and Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Plant.

The contract allows 425 calendar days for completion of this project. This project is located within zip code 78742 (District #3).

Austin Underground, Inc. (MBE/MH) is located in Lago Vista, Texas.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Safety, Economic Opportunity and Affordability, Health and Environment.